

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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Entered at the Postoffice of Honolulu, H. T., Second-Class matter.

Semi-Weekly—Issued Tuesdays and Fridays.

Subscription Rates:

Per Month, \$ 25 Per Month, Foreign, \$ 25
Per Year, \$3.00 Per Year, Foreign, \$4.00
Payable Invariably in Advance.

CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

TUESDAY AUGUST 19

THE KONA AGAIN.

That the lay press may have its differences of opinion and announce them is something most readers expect. But that one representative of the religious press should go to the extent of saying "Rats!" at another, and in capital letters, too, is certainly unexpected, as well as interesting. There was once an editor in Honolulu who blamed all journalistic controversies upon the kona wind, and it is a fact that we have had more atmosphere from the south than usual during the past fortnight. Hence we find the Anglican Church Chronicle, in its current issue, taking this fall out of the venerable Friend:

It comports with the principles of an ultra-liberal Protestantism to scoff at all credal formularies and, by adroit generalizations, to stigmatize and discredit those ancient symbols which, for many centuries, have embodied the Faith of the Catholic Church.

It is not therefore surprising, though it is far from encouraging, to find the able and versatile editor of The Friend, whose hostility to fixed formularies of faith is well known, taking occasion to declare, as he does in the August issue of that paper, that "Creeds are rancid," that they "Smack of a dead past, of battles and corpses of unloveliness and the unforgiving disposition"; that they should be "buried" and that "all Christians should join in the campaign to carry to men"—without their aid—"the knowledge of Christ's Father, the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom he has sent to save men through a living, loving faith in Him."

It is not surprising to find him rejoicing over what he deems to be the sympathetic attitude of the American Board toward creeds in general, believing as he does that this is the true "spirit of modern missions," and the ideal method of promoting true Christian brotherhood and unity.

If he has correctly interpreted the attitude of the great American Board in its editorial utterances of the June Missionary Herald, the information is interesting to say the least. It plainly indicates the drift of modern Protestantism, the trend of religious thought and teaching among some of the more independent leaders of the great Protestant denominations of Christendom. It frankly advises the rest of the religious world that they are about to cut loose from whatever credal anchorage that they may have had heretofore and to attempt to evangelize the world unhampered by the standards of the past; that a "living, loving faith in God"—which, it is implied, is not a creed—is to be the only basis and inspiration of all missionary endeavor of the future.

The Hawaiian Church Chronicle does not pretend to speak for any considerable portion of the great Body of Christ, of which all the baptized are members. But it ventures the assertion that to all such advocacy of creedless crusades, from whatever source they may emanate, nineteen-twentieths of the Christian forces who are today actively engaged in preaching that same gospel of "A living, loving faith in God," from the basis of a fixed creed will reply—with apologies to the King's English—"RATS!"

THE BEST IS CHEAPEST.

It is reported that the supervisors are hesitating over awarding a contract for the laying of a Warrenite pavement on Kalakaua avenue, to cost some seventeen thousand dollars, because this figure is some five thousand over what an asphalt-macadam pavement would cost. The Advertiser does not know to what fine point the finances of the city may be drawn, but we believe that for the difference in the cost of the two pavements the permanent one at the higher price is the cheaper. A Warrenite roadway will cost, according to the bids, less than one-third more than a macadam one, but it will outlast it at least four times. True economy will dictate the Warrenite.

The city has an example of the difference between a permanent pavement and a temporary one in the block on Fort street between King and Hotel. That pavement has been down nearly three years, receiving the hardest traffic of the city and being ground at by the bits of earth and road metal trucked on it from every cross street, yet it has not been found necessary to spend a five-cent piece on it for repairs and it appears to be in substantially as good condition today as the day it was laid. Warrenite is only a less substantially built pavement than bitulithic, being the bitulithic made cheaper for roads having less heavy traffic.

The time has come—it was here years ago, as a matter of fact—when it is money wasted to build the principal roads of the city with anything not of a permanent grade. With the ordinary macadam, under present auto-conditions, construction money is practically thrown away on much-traveled streets. The asphalt-macadam is greatly superior to the ordinary macadam and it is satisfactory on all but the most-used streets. But for King, Hotel, Beretania, Fort, Nuuanu, Bishop, Kalakaua avenue and some few others, the best available should be had and nothing else should be put down. It is cheapest in the long run and a better roadway at all times. This city has passed the dirt road stage and a fair start has been made. It only requires the courage to keep it up, the courage to spend a little more and get the most durable and consequently the cheapest article. In the case of Kalakaua avenue, better spend the extra five thousand and let some other place wait, rather than to do two poor jobs that will have to be done over again before the present board leaves office.

THE EXAMPLE THEY SEE.

"It is when we see the amount of money that is wasted in doing politics that we get discouraged," said a young, part-Hawaiian school-teacher recently, referring to the multitudinous graft of the recent legislature. "We get discouraged. It does not seem that there is any sense of fairness among our lawmakers."

This teacher, who receives seventy dollars a month, had saved enough from his salary to pay his expenses at the summer school. He is going back to his seventy-dollar-a-month position, but he does not know whether there will be money sufficient in the school fund to pay him his salary regularly. If he devotes his life to teaching, at best he cannot expect to be paid more than a hundred and fifty dollars a month. Yet he notes that a man absolutely without clerical experience and with less than half his education can receive from five to twelve dollars a day graft money while the legislature sits; that political pull can be developed to the extent of allowing a man to graft unrebuked to the extent of nearly fifty dollars a day, thousands being thus wasted in the aggregate, in the face of a pending financial stringency.

Is it any wonder that some of the Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians soon reach the conclusion that honesty and industry are not the valuable qualities the copybook tells about?

NOISES IN THE NIGHT.

The futurist, cubist and post-impressionist schools of art have had

one effect other than to attract the attention of the curious. They have led to the establishment of a new school of letters, a new age of literature in which composition takes on a bit of the cubist measurements and post-impressionist style, the whole based on the general ambition of the futurists to create without indicating what they have created. It is related that one woman writer, who is now a resident of Paris, has taken up futurist writing, according to the Indianapolis News. Her method is not like that of Meredith or of Stevenson, to make notes for possible future use, nor yet like that of Thackeray, who devoted to his work desk whatever time he could spare from his row garden. She begins to work at midnight in an empty, solitary room, and proceeds, before pen has touched paper, to empty her mind of all thought. When a state of vacancy in harmony with the room has been attained she begins to write, this and that and the other thought that tumbles into her mind. It is said that the same sentence occurs many times in the course of a page and that the "finished" production is very strange indeed.

If one may bridge the gap separating futurist literature from hot weather insomnia it may be remarked that every light sleeper has hidden in him the soul of a futurist. There are nights which spread their stuffy counterpane of heat over bedrooms and sleeping porches alike. What sweeter, what more original inspiration could come to the futurist writer than comes to us through the noises of the night? Night noises are of two distinct sorts—city and country. Apartment house futurists have only city noises to contend with, such as flat car wheels, belated traffic, the people in the apartment above and all the other sounds that associate themselves with a city under cover of darkness. City noises begin early and continue late, the milk bottle being followed by the paper and the paper by the neighbor's alarm clock. Country noises are totally different. There are crows and horses and chickens and pigs and nodding trees and birds and bugs—although the city has bugs, too, but of a different sort. A city futurist has been known to master his native noises only to be driven to distraction on experiencing those of the country, and vice versa. There is much dependent on "getting used" to it.

But the futurist writer at midnight flourishes best in that uncertain region, which partakes of the dual nature of city and country. This is where houses spring up in a day. If that Paris futurist only lived in one of these neighborhoods his everlasting fame would be assured. She would not need first to empty her mind of all thought—dwellers in this borderland never take thought. Then there is the inspiration. First, hot nights. Next, hard-shelled creatures bawling their heads against the screened windows and doors. Again, the young family of flickers in the tree near the window has a sociable quarrel. The cats invite the hurling of shoes and alarm clocks. The chickens over the way begin to stir, and then the neighborhood crowing begins. Turning on the light, your watch (the clock is down with the cats), shows that it has just turned 1. There are thoughts and thoughts, but the thoughts that come in the night when it is hot and sticky and every living thing except yourself insists on staying awake are the most peculiar.

TEACHING OF YOUNG CHILDREN.

The Montessori method of teaching young children, which has attracted so much attention in the educational world during the past four or five years, is to have a practical try-out at Atherton, San Mateo County, where Mrs. Beach Thompson has equipped a school-room and put it in charge of competent persons. There are to be three periods of one month each during the current year, and by the end of the last of these the merits of the system should be fairly well determined, says the San Francisco Argonaut. Mme. Montessori and her followers have assuredly achieved very notable results, yet we think there are considerations with respect to the system which remain to be tried out in broad applications. Originally and fundamentally the system was devised for defective children. The theory under which it is applied to normal children is that what may work well with a defective child of say ten or twelve will be equally effective with a normal child of say four or five or six. That this theory is a sound one we doubt. Between the defective child and the normal child there are, we suspect, differences of mind and disposition, of receptive powers and of capacity for establishing habits, not measurable by difference in years. In other words, there are radical variations between the defective mind and the normal mind. But he this as it may, the experiment is worth while, and it will be followed with attention by very many who have been attracted by Mme. Montessori's system both by its success in her school in Rome and by the philosophy upon which it is founded. One thing is certain, namely, our present methods of teaching children are very far from being perfect. In many respects we question if they are as effective as the old-time school when the alphabet was written on a clap-board, the reverse side of which was a ready instrument of pedagogic discipline. Learning indeed has been made easy, and we sometimes think too easy. "Easy come easy go" is a maxim which applies in the sphere of education as precisely as in the sphere of economics.

It is only a few years ago that the educational world gave its unqualified endorsement to the kindergarten system which took children almost from infancy and turned the work of education into diverting games. Measured by conceptions of idealism and judged by certain sentimental and picturesque standards, the kindergarten was a tremendous success. But later and more sober judgment has not tended to confirm earlier opinions. It has been found—at least we have the word of experienced teachers for it—that children of the kindergarten, while in many ways they exhibit a certain mental efficiency, gain little or nothing in the way of real training. They have been taught, not to work, but to play. They have acquired neither habits of industry nor of obedience. Coming from the kindergarten to schools of more serious purpose and severer method they have much to unlearn—much which tends to turn the hair of the academic teacher gray. If it be true, as certain psychologists have declared, that the most important formative years are those of early childhood, then it can not be true that a system of teaching which does not in those years enforce habits of diligence and obedience is a good one. A child fixed in the habit of following its own whims and of turning work into play is a child essentially damaged in its capacity for serious effort.

It is a trite remark that education, as the etymology of the word reveals, is a process of individual development—of bringing out inherent qualities and capacities and making the most of them. It follows in logic and common sense that any scheme of education which reverses the order must be wrong. Nature is a pretty good school-mistress, though a hard one. She instructs in a thousand subtle ways, but in her method there is a remorseless severity. She does not attempt, as does the kindergarten, to make things easy; she does not, as does the Montessori system, temper the wind to the shorn lamb. The rule of the survival of the fittest is nature's rule in education as in other things. And we suspect that for normal children this is the correct principle. When work is turned into play, when things are made easy, when enjoyment is established in place of duty, when art is made to serve instead of utility—there is, we suspect, a flying in the face of nature which may produce Lady Claires and my Little Lord Fauntleroy of eight or ten, later to grow into pretentious sissies and insufferable prigs. The work of education, in young or in old, calls for a devoted and serious mind. Any effort to cheat nature by devices or short cuts is, in the case of the normal child, more likely to result in damage than in benefit.

TO SAVE THE OYSTER.

Conservation in this country means generally to take care of forests and water power. But there is the lowly oyster that needs conservation very much. It is already in the nature of a luxury. And with a continuance of present methods it will in no long time become the food of the very rich only. In the bays along the Atlantic coast and in the gulf oysters are native. There are millions of acres of bottom on which they would grow if allowed to do so. Yet they become scarcer and higher in prices every year. With the modern sys-

tem of transportation this is a question in which inland towns are interested as much as seacoast towns. Already many of the old beds have disappeared. Greed has exhausted them. Recently five hundred delegates met to consider the situation. They simply recommended higher prices. But, as has been pointed out, the needed thing is direct missionary work to convert localities to new knowledge. Chesapeake bay is the largest oyster territory in the world. Its productiveness has been reduced one-half. Many of the best oyster grounds have been made bare. In recent years scientific men have surveyed the bay with the idea of leasing and planting by private persons. But the natives of the region round about combine to defeat the purpose and defy the law. They believe that the oyster is a wild gift from Providence, and is not amenable to law. And in this manner, speaking broadly, we have gone our destructive way through this continent from ocean to ocean until we are on the verge of ruining our land and depriving ourselves of food necessary to keep a growing population. We have come to ourselves as we know concerning forests and water power. The salmon fishing industry has likewise seen the necessity of a similar control, and now private firms aid the government hatcheries. Had not this been the case, we should long ago have ceased to know the taste of salmon. Just now we are driving headlong to extinguish the oyster as we are doing with the fishes, notwithstanding the rally for protection which late laws have made. It is time that something on a large scale were done if we expect to conserve this great food supply of the oyster. The Philadelphia Ledger thinks laws are powerless, and that education of the natives near the oyster beds is the only way. Then let it be education—and make it compulsory!

THE PASSING HOUR.

The band will play no more at the hotels, but the Princess Theresa still has the call upon it.

The Mexican seat of war appears to have been moved to Washington, D. C., for the time being.

Governor Sulzer is trying his best to stay in, while Governor Frear is trying his best to get out. Looks like room for some mutual arrangement in this.

We note that Mayor Fern spent only \$52.20 of the public money in "entertainment" during the quarter year ending June 30. This commences to look as if the Honorable Joseph is a cheap guy.

The matter of their A B Cs is becoming very important among the enlisted men on Oahu these days. For the time being the first three letters will mean more than the rest of the twenty-six.

Has it been settled yet whether the coming Mid-Pacific Carnival is to be a setting for a number of private, money-making sideshows, or to be something in which the main object of everybody is to work for the success of the big show?

In Bristol, Rhode Island, property leased for billboard purposes is assessed higher than adjoining property, the fact that it is so leased making it more valuable. It is noteworthy that while this ruling has not added much to the assessed valuation of the city it has reduced the billboards to an almost negligible number.

Kuhio writes that he was backing Pinkham, according to one set of orders, when along came a telegram from W. A. Kinney ordering him to oppose the President's choice. So Kuhio, between two conflicting orders, doesn't know what to do. It is too bad Hawaii cannot have a man at Washington big enough to do what he thinks is right, irrespective of the orders sent him, telegraphically or otherwise. Of course, to have a man big enough to do what he thinks is right necessitates first getting a man who can think.

OPTIMISTIC ON FUTURE OUTLOOK.

"The danger of a monetary crisis this coming autumn has passed," according to the weekly financial review of Henry Clews & Company, the New York bankers. "For this welcome reassurance Secretary McAdoo is chiefly responsible. By making it plain on repeated occasions that the treasury would do its utmost to relieve monetary pressure when crop and trade demands begin, he materially lightened the burden of the banks and enabled them to lend with far greater freedom than was dreamed of; thus averting a blockade of the wheels of commerce at the critical season when they are invariably running at high speed. His latest offer to put out \$50,000,000 of treasury funds available for bank reserves adds immensely to the loaning abilities of the national banks, especially in case of the smaller country institutions which are required to carry only fifteen per cent of reserves. It is estimated that by this means the credit facilities of the country will be expanded about \$200,000,000 to \$300,000,000, the effect of which is already seen in easier rates for time money, a better demand for commercial paper and a general revival of confidence in banking circles. Of course, much credit for the present improvement must also be attributed to the banking community for their persistent application of the brakes. In consequence there has been a general liquidation and contraction that is proving wholesome. There has been a decided stoppage placed upon all imprudent enterprises. The demand for new capital which threatened to bring on a serious crisis has been powerfully restrained for good; and the net new issues for July and August will show a large decline compared with previous years. In brief, the financial world has been taking the rest cure and is already much invigorated in consequence.

"Improved conditions are not confined to the United States. Betterment is equally apparent in London, Paris and Berlin. The applications for new capital in the first half of the year were quite as urgent there as here, and the restraint upon such has been correspondingly severe to that applied in the United States. The Balkan war is no longer a nightmare, and gradually but surely the vast sums hoarded as a result of that struggle will again find their way into the channels of trade and investment. That sorry struggle has been ended permanently by exhaustion of the combatants. Germany is already beginning to recover from the trade depression brought on by financial stringency, and the advices from Paris are also of a much more cheerful nature. England continues on the high road of prosperity, no serious setback having occurred there at any period during the war, except the restraint imposed upon new financial undertakings. As an illustration of betterment of London's position, the Bank of England reserve stands at the unusually high figure of 55.92 per cent."

RESULT OF PROCRASTINATION.

Procrastination on the part of the United States in dealing with the Mexican situation during the past two years, has at last brought the result forecasted by those best qualified to speak of Mexico and the Mexicans.

Today the United States occupies the unenviable position from a world standpoint, of a great power slumped in the face by a small Power. It is on the brink of a war not of its own choosing, and it must use other than diplomatic measures now, to save its face.

An insolent ultimatum such as the one sent by Huerta was made possible only through the absolute loss of prestige due to a vacillating policy which reeked not of hundreds of Americans killed, and millions of dollars in property destroyed, but through feeble diplomacy sought to charm the leaders of the warring factions into the ways of peace.

COMMERCIAL CLUB
TO HOLD ELECTION

The annual election of the Commercial Club will be held Friday evening, August 23, at eight o'clock. Before the election there will be the annual dinner banquet. This will take place at six o'clock. A special musical program has been arranged to be presented during the banquet. Reports of officers are to be made. The officers of the club, in their announcement of the time for holding the election state that "the Commercial Club is now closing the most prosperous and pleasant year of its existence."

Five members are to be elected to the board of governors. There are ten candidates, as follows: George A. Brown, J. K. Clarke, Fred Huns, Malcolm MacIntyre, Zoua K. Myers, E. J. Peters, C. B. Ripley, William T. Schmidt, Albert Waterhouse and John M. Young.

NOBLE HERE TO
VIEW DRYDOCK

Noted Engineer to Prepare Report For Navy Department Which Will Have Great Weight in Deciding Mooted Questions—Hawaiian Waters Not Suited to Floating Dock.

Alfred Noble, who possesses an international reputation as a civil engineer arrived in Honolulu yesterday on the Sierra. He comes to make an investigation of the drydock situation for the Navy department, and he lost no time yesterday in going about the business, for he was at Pearl Harbor in company with Navy Civil Engineer Gayler, an hour after he landed.

Noble's report, it is understood, will have weight with the Navy department in clearing up conflicting statements which have been made by various boards of engineers who have passed on the drydock proposition.

Noble expects to return to Washington with his report August 26, leaving here on the Maechula. He has familiarized himself with the various reports made, and his investigation here will be actual observations of conditions.

According to the reports from Washington the naval authorities there appear to have no doubt that the dock can be built in accordance with the designs of the bureau of yards and docks and on its present site, but it is believed that the work will cost more than at first estimated, and before going to congress for an additional appropriation, the Navy department wants to have a report from a world known expert.

The report of Noble means much to the San Francisco Bridge Company, the contractors, for if he holds that the dock can be constructed according to the original specifications, the financial loss caused by the recent disaster will fall far more heavily on the contractors than will be the case if he finds the plans impracticable.

The suggestions that a floating drydock be substituted has met with objections on the ground that the presence of sulphuric acid in Hawaiian waters would seriously increase the cost of maintenance. It is stated that it would be difficult and expensive to protect the metal of such a structure from corrosion.

The special board of Navy civil engineers officially informed the Navy department that the drydock can be built, but in view of the existing geological conditions, it was decided in order to eliminate all possible risk to obtain the best engineering opinion from civil life.

TO SETTLE QUESTION
OF TRANSPORT COMMAND

Considerable correspondence has been exchanged lately between the military authorities in Manila and the war department in regard to the control and command on board Army transports where the personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps and Army are present. A report on this subject, was recently made by Lieutenant Colonel James H. Erwin, inspector, at the headquarters of the Philippine department, descriptive of the circumstances prevailing on the latest trip of the transport Logan from San Francisco to Manila. That officer pointed out that it was desirable to take some action to more definitely settle the status of this commanding officers of troops on board under these circumstances. The war department finds it impossible to make any speed ruling in the matter at this time. It is believed that no action should be taken by the issue of general orders or of special instructions to change the existing conditions, in view of the fact that the Articles of War covering the situation are now before congress for revision. The amended 1224 Article will, if approved by congress, read as follows: "When different corps of commands of the military force of the United States happen to join or do duty together the officer highest in rank of the line of the Regular Army, Marine Corps, Organized Militia, or Volunteers there on duty shall, subject to the provisions of the preceding article, command the whole and give orders for what is useful in the service, unless otherwise directed by the President." It is believed that the changes made in the proposed article are sufficient to satisfactorily settle the question of control and command on Army transports when members of the Marine Corps are being carried thereon.

WELSH IS INJURED;
FIGHT IS POSTPONED

(By Federal Wireless Telegraph.)
SAN FRANCISCO, August 18.—(Special to The Advertiser)—The Welsh-British match, scheduled for September 1 at Vancouver, British Columbia, has been postponed until September 29, owing to an injury to Welsh's ankle while training.

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